In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-38, 40, and 43-47 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please substitute the following claim 39 for the pending claim 39:

39.(Once amended) A method of stimulating cell division which comprises:

(A) contacting cells with an effective amount of one or more muteins of a human basic fibroblast growth factor, or biologically active peptides thereof *in vitro*, wherein said one or more muteins comprise the substitution of a neutral and/or hydrophobic amino acid for one or more of the following:

(a) Glutamate 89; or

(b) Aspartate 101; or

(c) Leucine 137;

wherein the numbering of amino acids is based on SEQ ID NO:1; or

(B) contacting cells with an effective amount of said one or more muteins, or biologically active peptides thereof *in vivo*.

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Please substitute the following claim 41 for the pending claim 41:

41. (Once amended) A method of healing a wound comprising contacting said wound with an effective amount of one or more muteins of a human basic fibroblast growth factor, or biologically active peptides thereof, wherein said one or more muteins comprise the substitution of a neutral and/or hydrophobic amino acid for one or more of the following:

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Cm.t

(a) Glutamate 89; or

(b) Aspartate 101; or

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(c) Leucine 137;

wherein the numbering of amino acids is based on SEQ ID NO:1.

Please substitute the following claim 42 for the pending claim 42:

42. (Once amended) A method of treating ischemia, peripheral vascular disease, a neural injury, a gastric ulcer, a duodenal ulcer, or heart disease comprising contacting cells with an effective amount one or more muteins of a human basic fibroblast growth factor, or biologically active peptides thereof, wherein said one or more muteins comprise the substitution of a neutral and/or hydrophobic amino acid for one or more of the following:

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(a) Glutamate 89; or

(b) Aspartate 101; or

(c) Leucine 137;

wherein the numbering of amino acids is based on SEQ ID NO:1.

Please enter the following new claims 48-75:

48. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein ischemia is treated.

49. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein peripheral vascular disease is treated.

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50. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein a neural injury is treated.

51. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein a gastric ulcer is treated.

52. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein a duodenal ulcer is treated.

53. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein heart disease is treated.

54. (New) The method of any one of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said one or more muteins comprise the substitution of a hydrophobic amino acid for Glu^{89}.

55. (New) The method of any one of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said one or more muteins comprise the substitution of a hydrophobic amino acid for Asp^{101}.

56. (New) The method of any one of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said one or more muteins comprise the substitution of a hydrophobic amino acid for Leu^{137}.

57. (New) The method of any one of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said one or more muteins comprise the substitution of a neutral amino acid for Glu^{89}.

58. (New) The method of any one of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said one or more muteins comprise the substitution of a neutral amino acid for Asp^{101}.

59. (New) The method of any one of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said one or more muteins comprise the substitution of a neutral amino acid for Leu^{137}.

60. (New) The method of any one of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said neutral amino acid is defined as alanine and said hydrophobic amino acid is defined as tyrosine.

61. (New) The method of any of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said one or more muteins of human basic fibroblast growth factor, or biologically active peptides thereof, comprise one or more of the following substitutions:

(a) substitution of Glutamate 89 with alanine or tyrosine;

(b) substitution of Aspartate 101 with alanine; or

(c) substitution of Leucine 137 with alanine;

or any combination thereof, wherein the numbering of amino acids is based on SEQ ID NO:1.

62. (New) The method of claim 61, wherein said mutein is human basic fibroblast growth factor [Ala^{89}].

63. (New) The method of claim 61, wherein said mutein is human basic fibroblast growth factor [Ala^{101}].

64. (New) The method of claim 61, wherein said mutein is human basic fibroblast growth factor [Ala^{137}].

65. (New) The method of claim 61, wherein said mutein is human basic fibroblast growth factor [$Ala^{89, 101}$].

66. (New) The method of claim 61, wherein said mutein is human basic fibroblast growth factor [$Ala^{89, 137}$].

67. (New) The method of claim 61, wherein said mutein is human basic fibroblast growth factor [$Ala^{101, 137}$].

68. (New) The method of claim 61, wherein said mutein is human basic fibroblast growth factor [$Ala^{89, 101, 137}$].

69. (New) The method of claim 61, wherein said mutein is human basic fibroblast growth factor [Tyr^{89}].

70. (New) The method of any one of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said mutein is a human basic fibroblast growth factor [Tyr^{137}].

71. (New) The method of any one of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said mutein is a human basic fibroblast growth factor [$Tyr^{89, 101}$].

72. (New) The method of any one of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said mutein is a human basic fibroblast growth factor [$Tyr^{89, 137}$].

73. (New) The method of any one of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said mutein is a human basic fibroblast growth factor [$Tyr^{101,137}$].

74. (New) The method of any one of claims 39, 41 or 42, wherein said mutein is a human basic fibroblast growth factor [$Tyr^{89, 101, 137}$].

75. (New) The method of claim 39, wherein said method comprises contacting cells *in vivo*.